

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method of automatically reestablishing a call placed by a
2 mobile unit operating within a radio frequency ("RF") communications
3 network to a called party after said call has been dropped, the method
4 comprising:
5 detecting that said call has been dropped;
6 determining whether said call is to be automatically reestablished by
7 said RF communications network; and
8 responsive to a determination that said call is to be automatically
9 reestablished by said RF communications network, a mobile switching
10 center ("MSC") of said RF communications network reestablishing said call
11 between said mobile unit and said called party.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said determining comprises
2 determining whether said call was placed to an emergency number.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said determining comprises
2 determining whether said called party is an emergency operator.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein said reestablishing comprises
2 said MSC dialing back said mobile unit.

1 5. A mobile switching center ("MSC") for automatically
2 reestablishing a call placed by a mobile unit operating within a radio
3 frequency ("RF") communications network to a called party connected to a
4 public switched telephone network ("PSTN") after said call has been
5 dropped, the MSC comprising software instructions executable by said MSC
6 for:

7. detecting that said call has been dropped;
8 determining whether said call is to be automatically reestablished by
9 said RF communications network; and
10 responsive to a determination that said call is to be automatically
11 reestablished by said RF communications network, reestablishing a
12 connection with said mobile unit, thereby to reestablish said call between
13 said mobile unit and said called party.

1 6. The MSC of claim 5 wherein said software instructions for
2 determining comprise software instructions for determining whether said
3 call was placed to an emergency number.

1 7. The MSC of claim 5 wherein said software instructions for
2 determining comprise software instructions for determining whether said
3 called party is an emergency operator.

1 8. The MSC of claim 5 wherein said software instructions for
2 reestablishing comprise software instructions for causing said MSC to dial
3 back said mobile unit.

1 9. Apparatus for automatically reestablishing a call placed by a
2 mobile unit operating within a radio frequency ("RF") communications
3 network to a called party after said call has been dropped, the apparatus
4 comprising:

5 means for detecting that said call has been dropped;
6 means for determining whether said call is to be automatically
7 reestablished by said RF communications network; and

8. means responsive to a determination that said call is to be
9 automatically reestablished by said RF communications network for
10 reestablishing said call between said mobile unit and said called party.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said means for determining
2 comprises means for determining whether said call was placed to an
3 emergency number.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said means for determining
2 comprises means for determining whether said called party is an emergency
3 operator.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said means for reestablishing
2 comprises means for dialing back said mobile unit.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said called party is connected
2 to said RF communications network via a public switched telephone
3 network ("PSTN").